

THE WHITE HOUSE

DECLASSIFIED

September 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR

HONORABLE ROY D. KENNEDY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: Berlin Issues Raised at White House Staff Meeting this Morning.

At the regular White House Staff Meeting this morning, a few suggestions were raised, and I was asked to refer them to an appropriate forum for consideration. It occurred to me immediately that an appropriate forum would be the Berlin Task Force, and, if you agree, perhaps you would raise these matters there at what you consider to be an opportune time.

In no special order, the points raised were as follows:

a. It was pointed out that despite the necessary current stress on such matters as Allied access rights, it was becoming increasingly important to develop measures and proposals which will have the effect of sustaining and raising the morale of the West Berliners. In this connection, it was specifically suggested that General Clay might be able to devote some of his time to the promotion of West Berlin's industrial health, especially in ways which would clearly imply confidence in the long range future viability of the city. Even more specifically, it was suggested that greater attention might be devoted to placing in West Berlin orders for products required in the several under-developed areas of the world.

b. In response to reports from several sources concerning the alleged planning of provocations in Berlin by East Germans (and in one case even by Poles disguised as West Germans), it was suggested that it might be appropriate to arrange to leak some of this information to the press, thus putting the East Germans on notice that we are aware of this activity and, conceivably, helping to scotch it. There have been press reports on this subject recently, but apparently from German sources only.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE: A/GC/MR

REVIEWED by *[Signature]* DATE 2/14/55

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DECLASSIFIED (Signed) L. L. Ligon  
Colonel, USA

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